

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 TANANA 01114 241001Z

43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 PM-03 DODE-00 OES-03 PRS-01

USIA-06 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /039 W
----- 022637

R 240745Z JUN 75

FM AMEMBASSY TANANARIVE

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7376

NASA HQS WASHDC

C O N F I D E N T I A L TANANARIVE 1114

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, MA, US, NASA

SUBJECT: SOVIET VISITORS TO NASA STATION

SUMMARY: EMBASSY/NASA STATION DIRECTOR BELIEVE IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO INVITE SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO VISIT TRACKING STATION DURING APOLLO-SOYUZ MISSION, BUT THIS IS CONTRARY TO CURRENT DEPARTMENT/NASA GUIDANCE. END SUMMARY.

1. EMBASSY BELIEVES VISIT OF SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO NASA TRACKING STATION HERE DURING APOLLO-SOYUZ MISSION WOULD SERVE SUFFICIENTLY IMPORTANT LOCAL POLITICAL PURPOSE TO MERIT CONSIDERATION OF LOOSENING DEPARTMENT/NASA POLICY ON SOVIET VISITORS TO TRACKING STATIONS. PUBLIC AFFAIRS GUIDANCE RECEIVED BY STATION DIRECTOR FROM NASA HEADQUARTERS INDICATES THAT DEPARTMENT AND NASA DISCOURAGE SOVIET VISITORS TO TRACKING STATIONS BECAUSE SOVIETS DO NOT RECIPROCATE.

2. NASA TRACKING STATION MADAGASCAR HAS LONG BEEN OBJECT OF MALAGASY SUSPICIONS WHICH RANGE FROM CONCERN THAT STATION IS COLLECTING AND FORWARDING MILITARY DATA TO SUGGESTION THAT STATION IS COVER FOR CIA ON ISLAND. RECENT FICTIONAL SERIAL IN LEADING LOCAL PAPER USED NASA STATION AS BACKDROP TO STORY CONCERNING SECRET AGENTS IN MADAGASCAR. EVEN MORE DIRECT ALLEGATIONS THAT NASA STATION IS ENGAGED IN CLANDESTINE OPERATIONS HAVE APPEARED IN RADICAL PRESS HERE, AND ALTHOUGH THIS HAS SUBSIDED RECENTLY, IT COULD REAPPEAR.

CONFIDENTIAL

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 02 TANANA 01114 241001Z

3. EMBASSY, NASA, AND USIS HAVE ATTEMPTED TO GET SENIOR GOMR OFFICIALS AND PRESS TO VISIT STATION FOR PAST SEVERAL YEARS WITHOUT MUCH SUCCESS. APOLLO-SOYUZ MISSION OFFERS ATTRACTIVE REASON FOR SENIOR OFFICIALS TO MAKE VISIT AND INVITING SOVIET AMBASSADOR - EVEN IF HE DOES NOT COME - SERVES TO UNDERSCORE OPENNESS AND NONCLANDESTINE NATURE OF STATION. FACT THAT STATION DOES NOT EMPLOY ELABORATE SECURITY MEASURES AND THAT MOST STATION EMPLOYEES ARE MALAGASY IS BOTH IMMEDIATELY APPARENT AND IMPRESSIVE TO MALAGASY VISITORS.

4. IN INVITATIONS TO MALAGASY OFFICIALS WE PLAN TO EMPHASIZE THAT APOLLO-SOYUZ REPRESENTS NOT ONLY EXAMPLE OF U.S. - SOVIET COOPERATION BUT ALSO REPRESENTS CONFIRMATION THAT MALAGASIZATION OF STATION IS PROGRESSING IN THAT THIS IS FIRST TIME TANANARIVE STATION HAS PARTICIPATED FULLY IN A COMPLEX MANNED SPACE FLIGHT PROGRAM.

5. ACTION REQUESTED.
REQUEST DEPARTMENT AND NASA CONCURRENCE IN EMBASSY/NASA INVITATION TO SOVIET AMBASSADOR TO VISIT STATION DURING APOLLO-SOYUZ MISSION.
ELFERS

CONFIDENTIAL

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, INTELLIGENCE COLLECTION, TRACKING STATIONS, SCIENTIFIC VISITS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 JUN 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ElyME
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975TANANA01114
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750218-0945
From: TANANARIVE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750619/aaaaarpt.tel
Line Count: 83
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: ElyME
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 27 AUG 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <27 AUG 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <12 DEC 2003 by ElyME>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SOVIET VISITORS TO NASA STATION SUMMARY: EMBASSY/NASA STATION DIRECTOR BELIEVE IT WOULD BE
TAGS: PFOR, MA, US, NASA, CIA
To: STATE NASA
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006